

Week 11: Spiritual Authority Comes with Spiritual Accountability

God has all power while He has created us to walk with some power. And because the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty through God, then our Lord God expects us to act in accordance with and with the privilege He has granted us.

Learning Objective: In our next section we are going to learn more about our identity of being a child of God and the accountability that is expected.

Lesson Aim: To get a biblical understanding of how the grace of God (the gift of authority) should change how we live.

Thesis: Obedience is our response to grace, not our attempt to earn it.

Your specialness is not the result of anything you have done, of course. It is all God's doing. We are what we are by the grace of God.

(Neil T. Anderson, *Victory Over the Darkness*, p. 55)

Takeaways:

- We will discover the mindfulness that is expected of the Believer.
- We will learn the manner of life that the Believer should live.
- We will understand their metamorphosis that is continually happening in the Believer.
- We will see how the Messiah made it possible for the Believer to overcome the darkness.

1 Peter 1:13 – 21

- (v. 13) Authority is exercised by those who are **mindful** of who they are.
 - When one decides to “gird up” that is to _____ up or fasten their mind around their identity.
 - Are you mindful of your position in Christ.
 - Dominion is not dominance, but demonstration of character through mindfulness of who you are; the exercise of self-control (Anderson, *Victory Over the Darkness*, pg. 38 – 29).
 - “Be sober” – to be temperate, dispassionate, circumspect (careful)
 - Believers have _____ but are not _____.
 - We are represented of God in the fact that passions do not drive actions.
 - And rest hope fully upon the grace that is to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.
 - This is a mindset that what is now does have an end date, and there is an eternity waiting for you.
 - Your hope is solely based on things changing but on Christ appearing.
- (v. 14) Authority is displayed in the **manner of lifestyle** a Believer has.

- You are *obedient* to the Father. You are _____ the requirements of Christ.
 - What do the requirements look like? _____ and _____.
 - WARNING: Believers are not negative legalists; neither are we positive legalists. And our obedience is *relational* and not *transactional*.
- Further on the contrary, are Believers to use license to *conform* to the former lusts, as in your ignorance.
 - Conform – fashion oneself to another pattern.
 - In other words, one must take on another mind and emotional state in order live out the passions that once were held when you did not know Christ.
- (v. 15 - 17) Authority is revealed the more a Believer **metamorphosizes** into the image and likeness of Christ.
 - Romans 12:2* Be not _____ but be _____ by the renewing of your mind.
 - Positional holiness is complete; Practical holiness is being completed.
 - Titus 3:4 – 6
 - Hebrews 13:20 – 21
 - Notice that you are requested to be holy in your *conduct*. Live according to who the Bible says you are, and not according to what the lies the devil tells.
 - When you do so, your confidence grows in the truth.
 - **Ex:** Training Bikes vs. Tricycles – the hardest part of learning to ride a bike is staying upright. The hardest part of being a Disciple is believing that you are upright in the eyes of God.
- (vv. 18 – 21) Authority has been given to you because the **Messiah** made it possible.
 - He paid for you with precious blood.
 - He was foreordained or pre – established for you to have authority in God through Christ.
 - All was done so that your hope would be in God.